

Minutes

**Board of Juvenile Justice
Thursday, April 25, 2002**

**DHR Board Room, 29th Floor
2 Peachtree Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Major General Peter Boylan; Emmett Bryant Jr.; Susan Dunwody; Lois Frank; Dr. Eleanor C. Main; Dr. Edwin A. Risler; William Shellem; John E. Wiggins; Mary Wilhite

Advisory Board Members Present: Judge Quintress J. Gilbert; Judge Gregory Adams

DJJ Staff Present: Dr. Thomas Coleman; Ronnie Lane; Linda Layton; Orlando L. Martinez; Greg Maxey; Sheila Mitchell; Camille Murray; Dr. Tom O'Rourke; Mike Sorrells; Jimmy Taylor; Jaci Vickers

Other: Paul L. Jones; Audrey Armstead

Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Susan Dunwody. She welcomed all in attendance at the April 2002 Board meeting. Ms. Dunwody indicated that Dave Evans' mother had recent surgery from which she was recovering. As Vice Chair, she would preside over today's meeting. Ms. Dunwody acknowledged the passing of Veronica Duncan Walter's son and asked that special thoughts and prayers go out on behalf of their family during this time of bereavement.

Ms. Dunwody called for a motion to approve the March 28, 2002 minutes. The motion was made by Emmett Bryant, seconded by Peter Boylan and unanimously approved.

Commissioner's Comments
Orlando L. Martinez, Commissioner

Introduction

Commissioner Martinez began by greeting and thanking everyone for attending the April meeting. He then gave an overview of the agency's operations.

The Bridge

- That after considerable deliberation and negotiations with First Corrections Corporation, the agency has decided not to renew the Bridge's contract at the end of the year. He added that the remaining 14 youth being held in the facility were moved to a variety of different placements, mostly to the Augusta YDC. With few exception, most were nearing the end of their terms.
- Cited the per capita costs and failure to comply with mandated federal medical requirements as being key factors in the Bridge's inability to meet the last corrective action plan.
- Added that the agency will reissue an RFP for a facility focusing on mental health needs. He stated that the agency will request a 100 bed contract, but will not exceed 50 beds.
- Indicated that the agency will be looking at sites in either mid, south, or north Georgia.

Facilities and Classification

- Relayed that the initial training for the agency's Integrated Classification process began this month. Trainers were selected and met April 14 - 19, 2002 for an intensive 5 1/2 day workshop. He explained that Dr. Tim Brennan, of the University of Colorado, was on-site to present information on the research, literature and development of the Comprehensive Risk & Needs Assessment (CRN). The agency is expected to implement CRN on July 1, 2002.
- Linda Layton indicated that the one day training/orientation for the workshop will be offered 3 times around the state. Friday, May 3rd would be the most convenient for the Board to attend. Ms. Layton explained that the training would be held in the auditorium of the Public Safety Training Center. Training will last from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.

- Commissioner Martinez indicated that the Sumter YDC Education Department recently participated in a live national satellite broadcast with OJJDP, The Hamilton Fish Institute and Georgia Washington University on April 11th. The broadcast was entitled "School-wide Education for Violence Prevention". Commissioner relayed that the agency was proud to participate in such an activity.
- The Commissioner commended counselors Charles Hartley and Sigmund Morgan of the Eastman YDC who recently completed the Juvenile Sex Offenders Training Course offered through the University of Louisville.

Community Corrections

- Stated that he and Gwen Skinner met with state and regional representatives for Mentor Clinical Care on April 9th. He explained that they are one of the agencies more successful providers of therapeutic foster care and independent living programs. Commissioner Martinez relayed that they are continuing to work with the department and provide great service in developing programs.
- Explained that Al Lick, Director of Youth Corrections of North Dakota, and representatives from North Dakota came to Georgia to meet with Community Corrections staff for development of our regional plans. He assured that the Regional Administrators presented their first draft of the regional plans and are now in the process of revisions.
- Relayed that he and Gwen Skinner went to the Eastman RYDC for a joint meeting honoring judges and court staff. He felt that the RYDC went far beyond their duties in recognizing the difficulties of the job that juvenile judges face.

Program Services

- Stated that central office Medical and Health Services staff attended and participated in the recently held National Commission on Correctional Health Care "Clinical Update" Conference. The Conference was held in Fort Lauderdale, FL on April 13-17, 2002. Commissioner Martinez felt that the Conference was particularly important because of the focus on clinical practices, standards and programs.
- Commissioner Martinez shared that the Office of Behavioral Health Services, in conjunction with the National Mental Health Association of Georgia, organized a Suicide Task Force Forum. The Forum was held April 3-4 at the Carter Center. The membership consisted of key nationally recognized experts on mental health issues and suicides.

- Commissioner Martinez recognized the help and support from the Carter Center in their two day review of suicide issues. Participants included:
 - ❑ David Shaffer, M.D.
Director of the Department of Child Psychiatry
Irving Philips Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University
 - ❑ Gail Wasserman, Ph.D.
Director of the Center for the Promotion of Mental Health/Juvenile Justice
Columbia University
 - ❑ Andres Pumariega, Ph.D.
Professor/Director Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
East Tennessee State University
 - ❑ Lindsay M. Hayes, Assistant Director
National Center on Institutions and Alternatives
 - ❑ Greg Fricchione, M.D., Director
Carter Center Mental Health Program
 - ❑ Lei Ellingson, Assistant Director
Carter Center Mental Health Program
 - ❑ Judy Fitzgerald, Executive Director
National Mental Health Association of Georgia
 - ❑ Stephanie Swann, Ph.D.
Professor, School of Social Work
University of Georgia
- Commissioner Martinez commented on the improvement in the area of suicide prevention. He explained that clearer policies and practices have been developed as a result of the work from Dr. Coleman and his staff.
- Commissioner Martinez indicated that on March 28, 2002 the Office of Behavioral Health Services conducted its first policy review retreat. The staff provided a complete review of policies, procedures, and expectations of all standards relating to behavioral health and the youth of DJJ.

Other

- Commissioner Martinez welcomed Chad Hoffecker from the State Attorney General's Office to the agency. Chad Hoffecker, he stated, effective May 1st, will be involved in the Legal Services activities of the agency.

- Mr. Hoffecker’s major duty will be to deal with critical and sensitive issues. He indicated that Jimmy Taylor will remain in the Legal Services Division along with 5 new staff persons licensed to assist with legal issues. The additional staff will effectively improve the relationships between government agencies and attorneys.

Meetings

Commissioner reported his participation in the following major meetings since the last March 28th meeting:

- Met with the University of Georgia (UGA) School of Social Work on how the agency can increase its capacity in Regions and Districts using the resources of the University, specifically relating to minorities.
- Attended a seminar on Technology in DJJ Facilities. The agency, he stated, is developing a prototype on building standards and exactly what kinds of technology the agency will have in each facility. As a result of the seminar, an agreement has been reached.
- Attended the DJJ 2003 Strategic Planning Framework. The Governor’s Office requires the development of an annual plan dealing with workforce and technology issues.
- Met with Georgia Indigent Defense Council (GIDC) on the “Over-representation of Minorities”.
- Met with the Governor’s Action Group for Safe Children. Attempts are being made to develop a seamless system of care for children in Georgia.
- Attended OJJDP/ACA Forum in Charlotte, NC.

Policy

Commissioner Martinez presented the highlights of policies implemented since the last meeting.

<u>Policy No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>
8.13	Use of Force
8.14	Reporting Child Abuse
8.15	Reporting, Reviewing and Investigating Special Incidents
14.21	Electronic Monitoring Services

The policies are available via Intranet or hard copy.

Commissioner Martinez concluded his comments and opened the floor for questions.

Other

- Major General Peter Boylan expressed concern about penalties incurred from not renewing the Bridge's contract. Commissioner Martinez explained that the agency did not acquire any financial penalties from not renewing the contract. He stated that a disclosure was in the contract stating that if the facility did not meet standards, they could be cancelled at any time.
- Major General Boylan inquired if the agency had a contract with Columbia University, because of its mention in various areas. Commissioner Martinez answered no. Due to national and federal grants, Columbia University agreed to work with the agency free of charge.
- Judge Gregory Adams relayed concern about the number of minorities coming into the system. Commissioner Martinez explained that causation factors such as, criminal opportunity, criminal associates, hyperactivity, and impulsivity dictate who enters the system.
- Commissioner Martinez also focused on DeKalb County and their Communities That Care, which is geared towards pushing minorities in the right direction.
- Judge Gregory Adams commended Commissioner Martinez and his staff in his efforts to reduce the number of minorities entering the system.
- Lois Frank expressed that she wanted to focus more on the youth. Commissioner explained that community involvement, staff accountability, and behavioral health issues are all being addressed within the facilities.

Agency Priorities

Orlando L. Martinez, Commissioner

Commissioner gave an example of a youth nearing release in one of the facilities, who had never taken responsibility for the crime committed. This kid, he stated, never recognized that there was a victim. This outcome is unacceptable and therefore Commissioner gave the agency priorities.

- Restorative justice
 - Victims-focusing on restoration of victims through their losses, i.e. public services or monetary supplements
 - Community-involving community schools, bowling alleys, or parks
 - Offender-offender must explore and take responsibility for the crime he/she committed

- Strategic leadership
 - Invest in staff
 - Discipline Without Punishment
 - Improved staff selections-we add video based testing to assist in selection

- Integrated classification
 - Research based decision making
 - Efficient allocation of slots/beds and treatment

- Strategic management
 - Results based management-measure accomplishments
 - Quality management
 - Population projections and planning-Program Based Standards

Lois Frank gave an example of non-profit groups helping government agencies with its minority youth and inquired if DJJ had looked into something of the sort. Commissioner Martinez stated that in the past, government agencies have not used faith-based organizations very well. Many non profit organizations have resulted in diverse outcomes.

Major General Peter Boylan indicated that more family involvement is needed.

Mary Wilhite expressed concern that most of the parents are incapable of providing their kids with what they need because don't have the maturity or life skills to teach their kids. Major General Peter Boylan agreed, stating that it is not the state's responsibility to raise a child.

Commissioner Martinez explained that the past practices of the agency have been to take the child out of the home because they lack structure. He stated that the agency has programs such as Multi-Systemic Therapy, which teaches staff how to work with families and provide structure. Commissioner Martinez relayed that it is the agency's duty to provide for the youth within the system, inside and outside the home.

Major General Peter Boylan agreed with family intervention.

Lois Frank inquired if there is a transition for youth after leaving the facility. Commissioner Martinez answered that there is transition services for the youth from the facility back into the community. He gave an example of the agency's group homes.

Dr. Eleanor Main added that in extreme situations, some youth do not belong with their families and felt that it should be determined on a case by case basis.

Judge Gregory Adams gave statistics showing that most kids are not in facilities but on some type of community supervision.

Commissioner reported that Sheila Mitchell, who has been with the agency for 4 years, is taking a new position. Sheila Mitchell will be the new Assistant Chief Probation Officer in Anaheim, CA. He commented that her contributions have been enormous.

FY03 Budget
Greg Maxey, Deputy Commissioner
Financial Management & Administrative Support

Deputy Commissioner Greg Maxey reported that almost everything for the FY 2003 budget stayed the same as last reported. Mr. Maxey summarized the budget as follows:

- Communities in Schools unfortunately was not restored.
- A partial restoration of the McIntosh YDC was approved. The cost will be \$3 million for next year. A smaller facility will reopen in the fall of next year.
- The contracts for Wholistic Stress Control and Pacific Institute, Inc. were also restored.
- A pay raise was implemented to reflect employee salary increases.
- Three Mental Health Regional Coordinators will be hired. Twenty-three nurses will be converted from part-time to fulltime with benefits.

Judge Adams asked a number of questions including why Project Destiny was reduced in DeKalb County. Greg Maxey explained that in order to keep most of the bigger projects, the agency had to reduce the smaller projects by a percentage. Mr. Maxey further explained that the reduction would amount to only about 3 or 4 youth.

Judge Adams also inquired about reducing the start-up funding for services to assist children who are victims of prostitution. Mr. Maxey explained that the line item is misleading. That full funding had been restored.

Judge Gregory Adams expressed concern over the contract for the CSRA Transitional Center 90 day diversion program for at risk youth. Greg Maxey explained that this was an ineffective center and therefore the contract was not renewed.

Greg Maxey thanked Jaci Vickers for her professionalism and assistance in the FY 2003 budget process.

Commissioner Martinez thanked both Greg Maxey and Jaci Vickers.

Major General Peter Boylan questioned whether the turbulence in staff has improved because of the pay increase. Commissioner explained that the pay differential was an important aspect, decreasing the turnover rate. He also relayed that DJJ employees are beginning to take pride in their work and their employer.

Board of Juvenile Justice

Conference Call

**Greg Maxey Deputy Commissioner
Financial Management & Administrative Support**

Greg Maxey stated that on Wednesday, April 10, 2002 9:00 a.m., a conference call was held to approve the sale of bonds. Mr. Maxey explained that the reason for the urgency in the bond sale was due to the demand to issue bonds including for the purchase of new voter equipment.

Ms. Dunwody asked for a motion to approve. The motion was made by Peter Boylan, seconded by Bill Shellem, and unanimously approved.

**DJJ Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, April 25, 2002**

**DHR Board Room, 29th Floor
2 Peachtree Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Major General Peter Boylan; Emmett Bryant Jr.; Susan Dunwody; Lois Frank; Dr. Eleanor C. Main; Edwin A. Risler; William Shellem; John E. Wiggins; Mary Wilhite

Advisory Board Members Present: Judge Quintress J. Gilbert; Judge Gregory Adams

DJJ Staff Present: Dr. Thomas Coleman; Ronnie Lane; Linda Layton; Orlando L. Martinez; Greg Maxey; Sheila Mitchell; Camille Murray; Dr. Tom O'Rourke; Mike Sorrells; Jimmy Taylor; Jaci Vickers

Other: Paul L. Jones; Audrey Armstead

Audrey Armstead gave a presentation on Students in Transition. The program has gone into effect at the Augusta YDC. Students in Transition is providing a continuum of services and support to youthful offenders as they go back to public schools, find employment, and enter the community. The goals of the program, she relayed, are job and school placement, support, and assessment both upon entering and exiting the system.

Ms. Audrey Armstead explained that upon entering the facility youth will be encouraged to develop:

- Educational goals
- Appropriate placement in vocational/academic classes
- Work Experience Training

Upon exiting the facility youth will be encouraged to participate in:

- Community Transition Plan
- Follow-up services
- Team support

During their stay, each resident is required to develop portfolios, participate in monitoring interviews, and meetings. Audrey Armstead relayed that the Augusta YDC has several programs currently being offered to the residents.

Academic School Track and Vocational GED Track are methods the Augusta YDC is using to further educate the youth in the facility's. To assist in the learning process, the Augusta YDC has vocational programs which include:

- Computer Applications
- Computer Repair
- Cosmetology
- Certified Construction Work
- Environmental Horticulture
- General Education Development
- Masonry

Audrey Armstead also relayed that all vocational classes are courses offered through the Augusta Technical College. She concluded her presentation.

Dr. O'Rourke stated that on May 9, 2002, a meeting with all facility principals will take place in order to provide the same structure as the Augusta YDC.

Bill Shellem thanked Audrey Armstead for her hard work and dedication to the kids.

The Department of Juvenile Justice Board of Education meeting was adjourned and the regular Board meeting reconvened.

Adjournment

Ms. Dunwody wished Sheila Mitchell well as she embarks on her journey to California.

Ms. Dunwody stated that the next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2002. The May board meeting coincides with the 17th National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community.

Ms. Dunwody asked for a vote on whether to hold the next board meeting in the 29th floor conference room or at the Hyatt. A decision was not made, board members will be notified of the meeting place.

Asking for and hearing no remaining questions, Ms. Dunwody adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

David C. Evans, Chairman
Board of Juvenile Justice

Orlando L. Martinez
Commissioner & Superintendent
DJJ Board of Education

Emmett Bryant, Jr., Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice